

House Resolution 1836

By: Representative Ashe of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Joy Smith Berry; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Joy Smith Berry is widely recognized throughout the state as the personification
3 of excellence in education and is truly an exemplary educational leader; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Berry was named the "2005 Outstanding Educator and PTA Advocate" by
5 the Georgia PTA; and

6 WHEREAS, this highly respected educator and school leader has served with honor and
7 distinction as a teacher, principal, and public servant; and

8 WHEREAS, she has been a strong advocate of parental involvement in education and has
9 supported the mission and goals of the Georgia PTA; and

10 WHEREAS, she believes fervently in the power of parents to spur and sustain high student
11 achievement and continues to support informed parent engagement in education; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Berry's involvement in education began in New York City, where she was
13 a teacher and principal for 25 years at schools in Queens and Brooklyn before moving to
14 Atlanta in 1976, where she has taught English at Tucker High School in DeKalb County and
15 Frederick Douglass High School in Atlanta; and

16 WHEREAS, she then served as an education specialist and education coordinator in the
17 Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, and in 1988 she was chosen by then-Governor
18 Joe Frank Harris to serve as the executive director of the Georgia Human Relations
19 Commission, a position in which she served for 12 years; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2000, Ms. Berry was selected by then-Governor Roy Barnes to finish an
2 unexpired term on the state Board of Education, and she was reappointed to the position by
3 Governor Sonny Perdue for a term ending in 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Berry is a shining example of the important impact that the efforts of
5 individual administrators and education professionals are having on the quality of education
6 received by the children of this state, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that her
7 superlative accomplishments be recognized appropriately.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
9 the members of this body heartily and gratefully commend Joy Smith Berry for her years of
10 sacrifice, foresight, accomplishment, and contributions on behalf of education in Georgia and
11 for the positive influence she has had upon the lives and futures of countless young people
12 in this state, and congratulate her on being named the "2005 Outstanding Educator and PTA
13 Advocate".

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
15 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Joy Smith Berry.